

Heidi Bojes, PhD Director, Environmental Epidemiology and Disease Registries Section Acting Director, Environmental & Injury Epidemiology and Toxicology Unit

#### **Report Preparation:**

Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Branch

Stacy Jorgensen, PhD, MPH Epidemiologist

Dan Dao, MPH Manager

#### **Contact Information:**

Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Branch Environmental Epidemiology & Disease Registries Section MC-1964 Department of State Health Services P.O. Box 149347 Austin, Texas 78714-9347

Email: injury.epi@dshs.state.tx.us

April 2016 June 2016 (addendum)



#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Understanding this report3
Pediatric EMS Runs4
Call type5
Age and sex6
Month of year7
Time of day8
Rates for large counties9
County of incidence10
Top five causes by intent11
Pediatric Trauma Hospitalizations12
Summary13
Age and sex14
Type of injury by severity15
Type of injury by age17
Fatal injuries by age18
Top five causes by intent19
Addendum: Ages 0 - 14 years20
Photography and artwork courtesy of: Cover image: "First Beach Experience" by drbertdelgado © 2015 is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0. Available at https://www.flickr.com/photos/mylifeafterdeath/17868634589/. Accessed April 20, 2016.  Page 4: "Texas Department of Emergency Management" by texasmilitaryforces © 2012 is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0. Available at https://www.flickr.com/photos/texasmilitaryforces/7367143908/. Accessed April 26, 2016.  Page 12: "Teddy Bear Hospital" by Christiaan Triebert © 2013 is licensed under CC BY 2.0. Available at https://www.flickr.com/photos/christiaantriebert/9024165415/. Accessed April 2, 2016.  Page 10: Map created by Kacie Seil, MPH, Texas DSHS Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Branch Page 16: "martha and nemo" by bambe21964 © 2013 is licensed under CC BY 2.0. Available at

https://www.flickr.com/photos/bambe1964/9395116948/. Accessed April 19, 2016.

#### UNDERSTANDING THIS REPORT

The databases used for the purposes of this document are the Texas EMS & Trauma Registries (ETR), which collects information on all EMS runs and trauma hospitalization discharges. The pediatric data presented here are for 2014. Pediatric, as used in this report, refers to individuals less than 18 years of age.

Texas Administrative Code §103.1 – §103.8 requires the collection of reportable event data from EMS providers, physicians, medical examiners, justices of the peace, hospitals, and acute or post-acute rehabilitation facilities. The ETR is a statewide passive surveillance system collecting these data.

EMS Runs – Texas is home to one of the largest EMS registries in the United States with more than 2.6 million EMS runs received annually. EMS providers are required to report all runs. A run is a resulting action from a call for assistance where an EMS provider is dispatched to, responds to, provides care to, or transports a person. This includes trauma and medical, emergency and non-emergency, transport and non-transport runs.

*Trauma Hospitalizations* – Trauma hospitalization case inclusion criteria include:

A spinal cord injury, ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes 806.0-806.9 and 952.0-952.9; *OR* 

A traumatic brain injury, ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes 348.1, 800.0-801.9, 803.0-804.9, 850.0-854.1, and 994.1; *OR* 

Another traumatic injury, ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes 800-959.9 excluding 905-909, 910-924, and 930-939, AND at least one of the following:

- Admitted to a hospital inpatient setting (for more than 48 hours),
- Died after receiving any evaluation or treatment or was dead on arrival, *OR*
- Transferred into or out of the hospital.

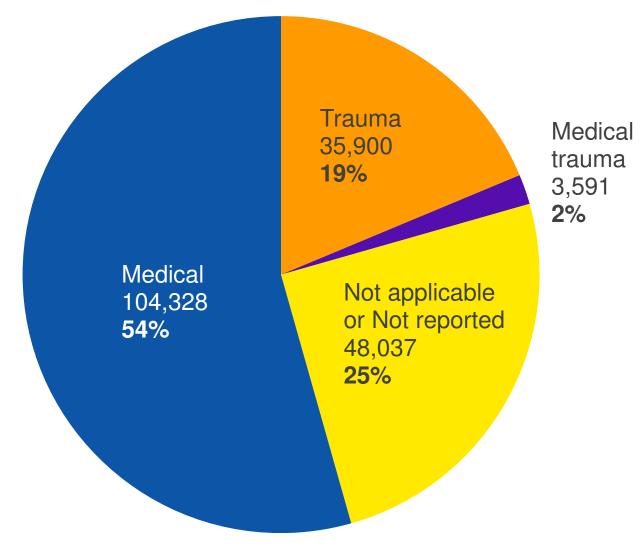
It is important to recognize there is not a 1:1 correlation between reported trauma hospitalizations and patients. For example, a patient treated at more than one hospital for a single injury event may generate more than one record in the database.

When the numbers of cases (or deaths) were less than 5 for any reported category or table cell, they were suppressed to preserve privacy. Suppressed values appear in the tables on pages 11, 15, and 19. Because totals were included in the table on page 15, it was also necessary to suppress other cells in the table to prevent determination of the unacceptable cell figure through subtraction.



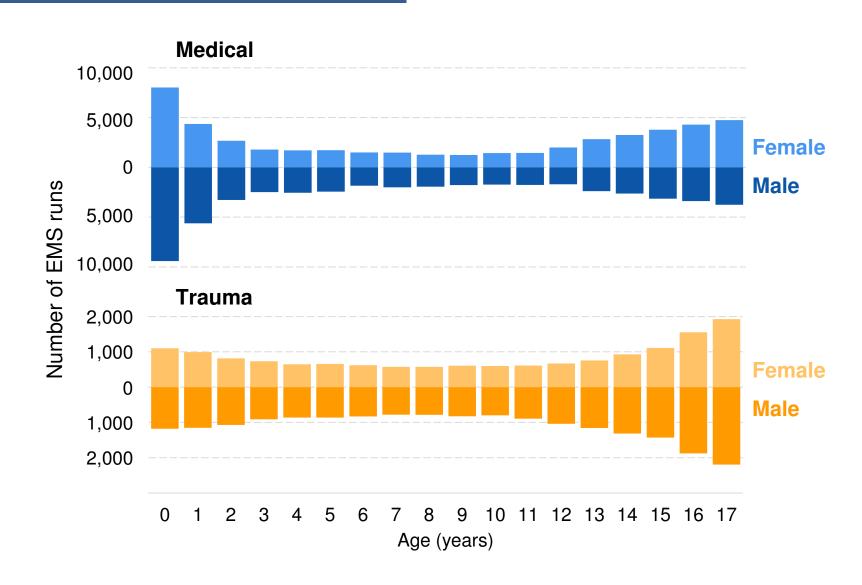
## **CALL TYPE**

There were 191,971 pediatric EMS runs in 2014, accounting for 7.9% of all EMS runs in Texas for the year. More than half the EMS runs were medical-related, while nearly one-fifth were trauma-related.



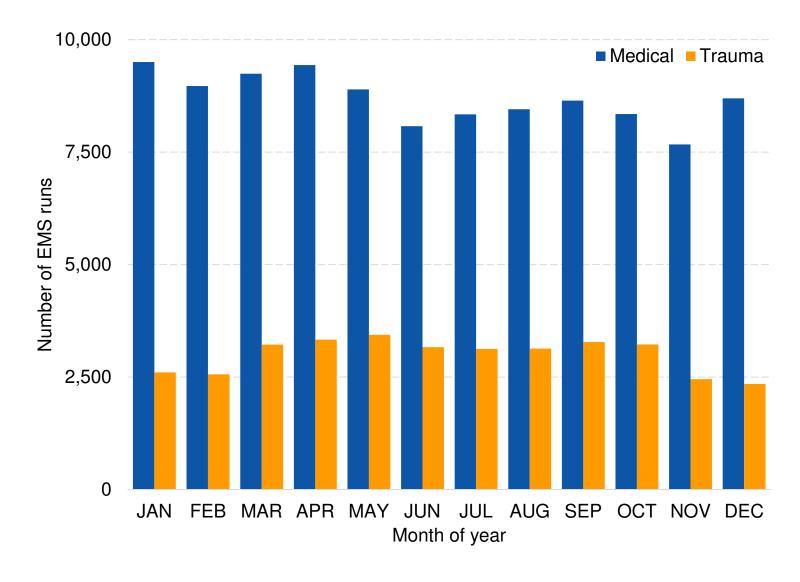
### **AGE AND SEX**

Over half (52%) of EMS runs were males, compared to 46% for females (1% unknown). The Texas mid-year population for individuals under age 18 years in 2014 was 51% male and 49% female. At most ages, males have more medical and trauma EMS runs. However, for ages 12-17 years, females had more medical EMS runs than males. While both the medical and trauma distributions are dumb-bell shaped, medical runs are most common for infants and young children, while trauma runs are most common among teens.



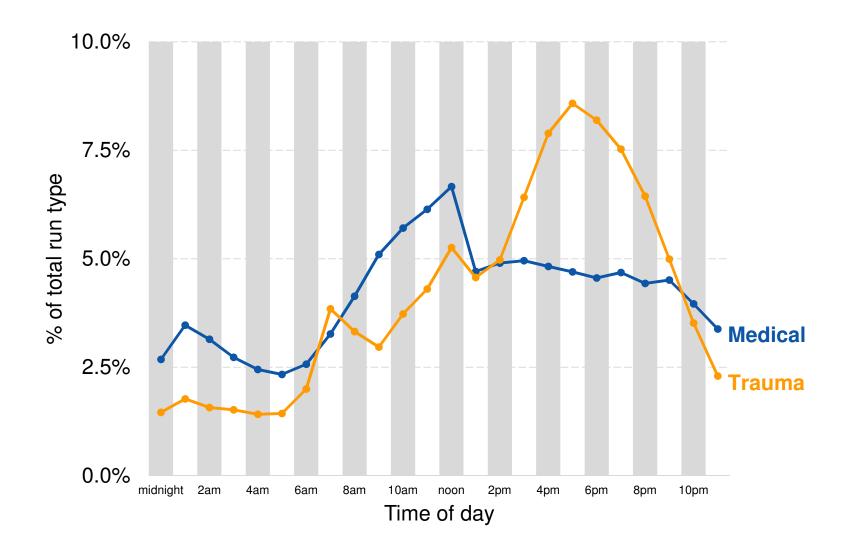
## **MONTH OF YEAR**

There were fewer pediatric trauma EMS runs in the winter months. In contrast, the number of pediatric medical EMS runs varied from month to month but did not have a clear seasonal pattern.



## **TIME OF DAY**

Medical runs are most common in the late morning and peak in the noon hour. In contrast, trauma runs are most common in the late afternoon and early evening hours with a peak during the 5:00 p.m. hour.



## RUNS • TEXAS, 2014 RATES FOR LARGE COUNTIES

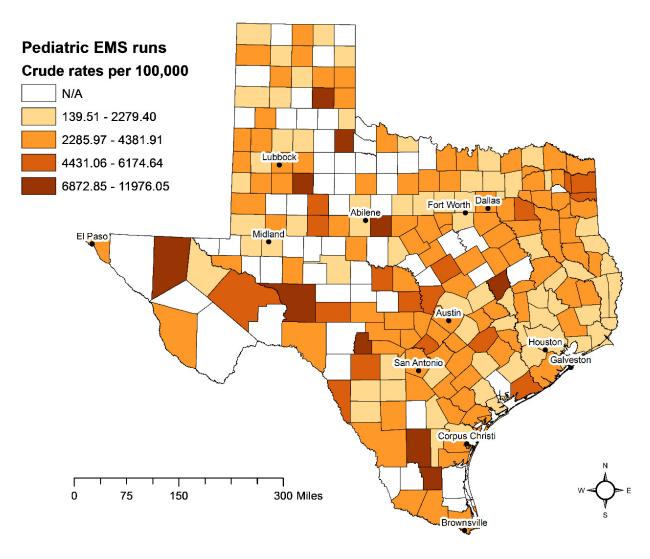
PEDIATRIC EMS RUNS • TEXAS, 2014

In 2014, the statewide crude rate of pediatric EMS runs was 2,729 runs per 100,000 population. Of the 13 Texas counties with the largest pediatric populations (>100,000), only Hidalgo and Travis counties had a crude rate above the statewide value.

Incident County	Population under 18 years of age	No. of EMS runs	Crude rate of EMS runs (per 100,000)
Harris	1,205,210	13,462	1,117
Dallas	676,575	17,748	2,623
Tarrant	526,956	6,427	1,220
Bexar	485,751	13,024	2,681
Hidalgo	279,329	8,024	2,873
Travis	265,211	8,098	3,053
Collin	240,553	4,364	1,814
El Paso	235,582	6,362	2,701
Denton	196,521	3,222	1,640
Fort Bend	191,190	2,330	1,219
Montgomery	138,889	1,075	774
Cameron	132,864	3,566	2,684
Williamson	132,752	2,387	1,798

## **COUNTY OF INCIDENCE**

Among counties with at least 20 pediatric EMS runs in 2014, the crude rates of pediatric EMS runs varied from 140 per 100,000 in Parker County to 11,976 per 100,000 in Callahan County. Rates were not calculated for counties with 20 or fewer pediatric EMS runs reported in 2014.

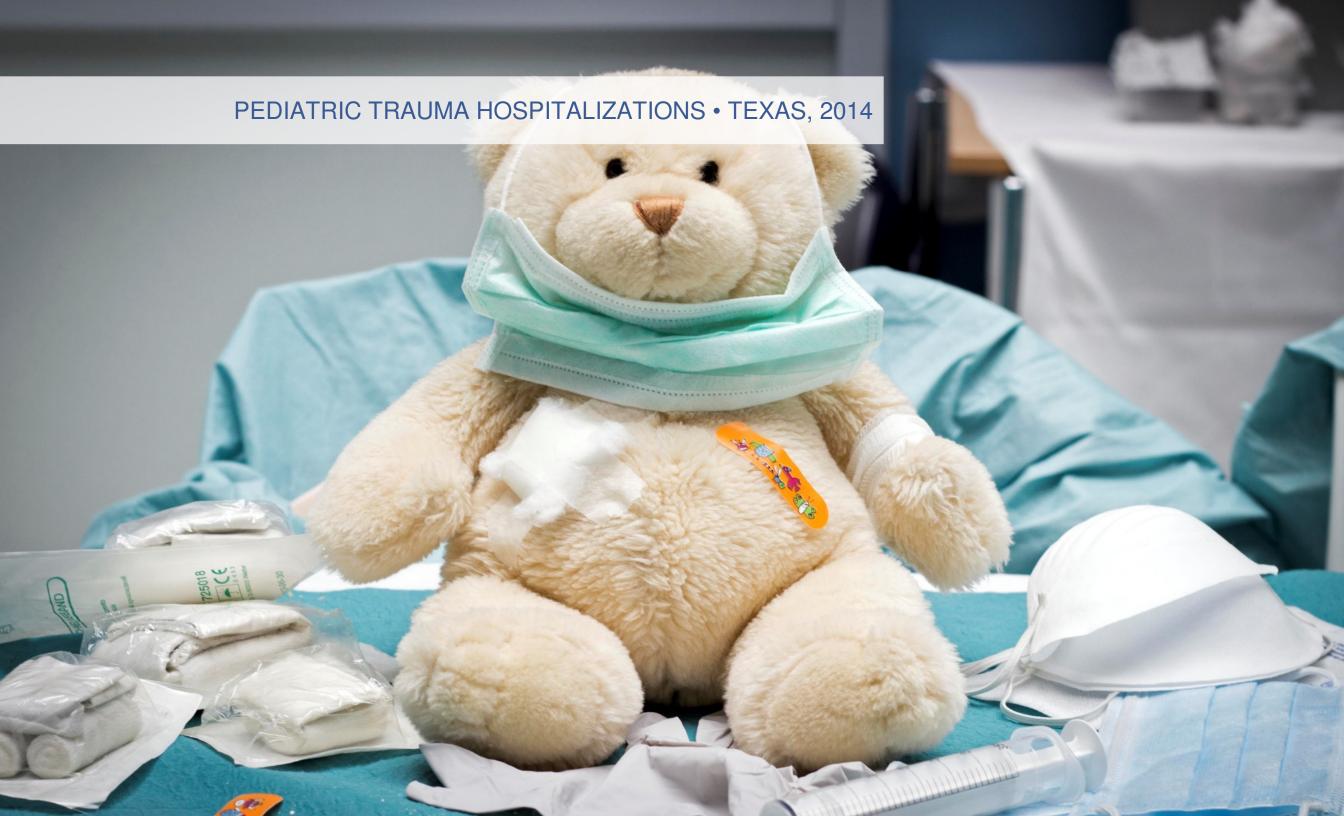


		Intent						
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Undetermined	Other			
Motor vehicle traffic	10,686	0	0	0	0			
Fall	7,521	*	0	830	*			
Other	1,239	267	508	137	*			
Not specified	765	66	804	196	89			
Struck by/against	1,027	*	581	0	11			

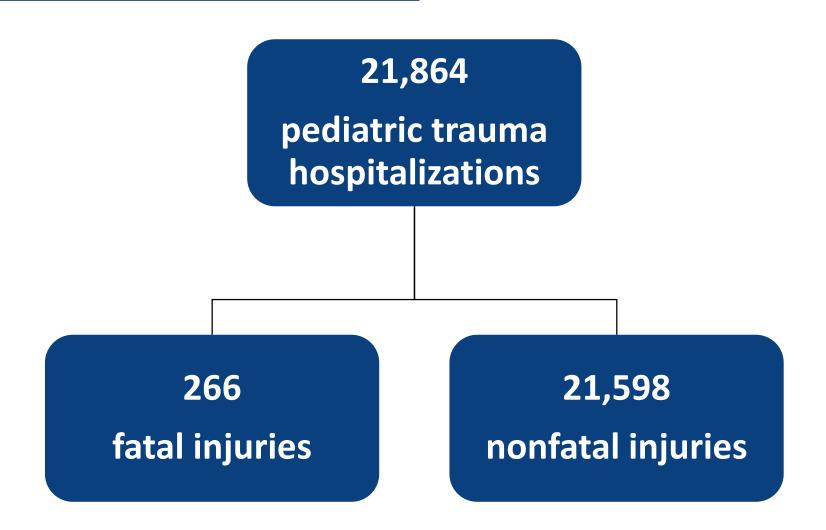
<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

A total of 29,537 pediatric EMS runs had external cause of injury codes, making it possible to classify by cause and intent. The most common cause of injury among pediatric EMS runs was motor vehicle traffic (36%), followed by falls (27%). Among EMS runs

with cause and intent information, the top five causes of injury accounted for 83% of pediatric EMS runs, and 83% of all pediatric EMS runs were for unintentional injuries.



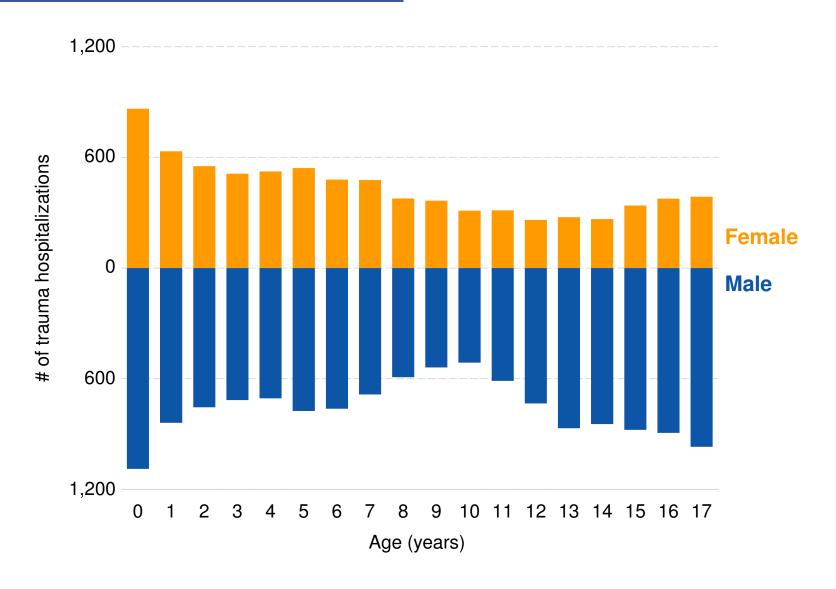
There were 21,864 pediatric trauma hospitalization in Texas in 2014. 1.2% of reported pediatric trauma hospitalizations involved fatal injuries.



# PEDIATRIC TRAUMA HOSPITALIZATIONS • TEXAS, 2014

### **AGE AND SEX**

Nearly 64% of children hospitalized for traumatic injuries were male. Trauma hospitalizations were greater in number for males in every age group. For both sexes, the largest number of trauma hospitalizations were for children <1 year of age. The fewest number of trauma hospitalizations occurred among 10-year-old males and 12-year-old females.



		Injury	severity score	)		
Injury diagnosis by outcome	1-9	10-15	16-24	25-75	Missing	Total
Fatal injuries						
Traumatic brain injury (TBI)	18	9	12	101	4	144
Spinal cord injury (SCI)	*	*	0	6	0	8
TBI + SCI	0	0	0	7	0	7
Other traumatic injuries	52	*	*	28	14	107
Nonfatal injuries						
TBI	2,633	533	795	319	249	4,529
SCI	26	*	9	15	*	58
TBI + SCI	8	*	*	14	*	30
Other	13,906	651	334	161	1,929	16,981
Total, all diagnoses	16,644	1,208	1,163	651	2,198	21,864

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

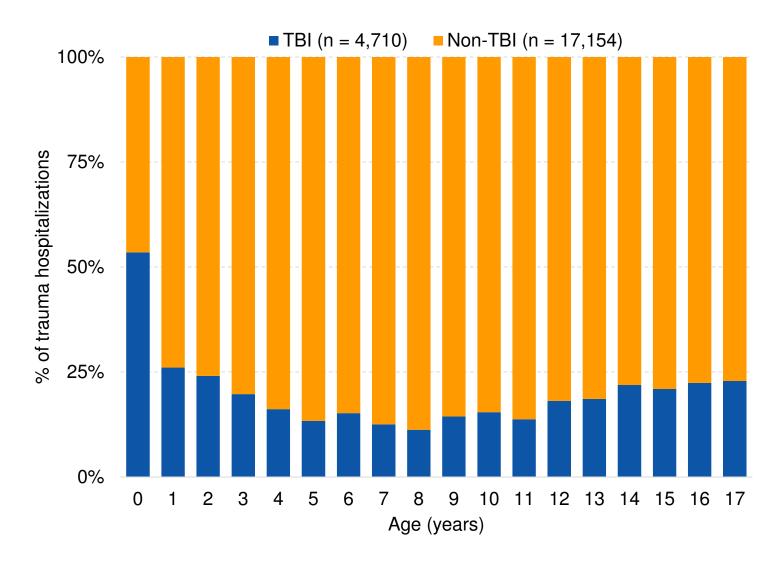
## PEDIATRIC TRAUMA HOSPITALIZATIONS • TEXAS, 2014

### TYPE OF INJURY BY SEVERITY

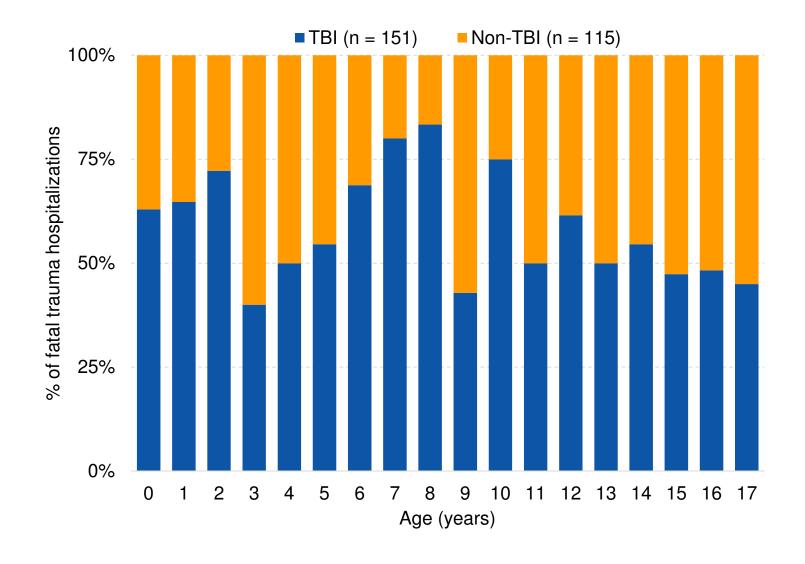
(Preceding page) 4,710 pediatric trauma hospitalizations involved a traumatic brain injury, alone (n = 4,673) or with a spinal cord injury (n = 37), comprising 22% of all pediatric trauma hospitalizations. Among fatal trauma hospitalizations, 57% involved a diagnosis of TBI. The injury severity score (ISS) is a composite variable used to assess the overall severity of traumatic injuries by accounting for injuries occurring in different body regions. An ISS of greater than 15 indicates major trauma, and a score above 24 indicates critical injury. Of pediatric trauma hospitalizations with an ISS score of 16-24, 2% were fatal injuries. For those with an ISS score of >24, 24% of were fatal injuries. Less than 1% of trauma hospitalizations with ISS scores <15 were fatal injuries.



Traumatic brain injuries are most common among children <1 year of age, after which they generally decreased until the teen years, when the number generally increasing with age.



Despite being diagnosed in only 22% of pediatric traumatic injury hospitalizations, a diagnosis of traumatic brain injury was present in 57% of fatal injuries.



		Intent						
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Undetermined	Other			
Fall	8,917	6	*	11	*			
Motor vehicle traffic	3,574	*	*	0	0			
Struck by/against	2,266	*	183	0	*			
Other transport	1,304	0	0	0	0			
Fire/burn	1,149	*	*	12	0			

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

There were 21,277 trauma hospitalizations with external cause of injury codes, making it possible to classify injuries by cause and intent. Of these, the most common cause of injury among pediatric trauma hospitalizations was falls (42%), followed by motor vehicle traffic (17%).

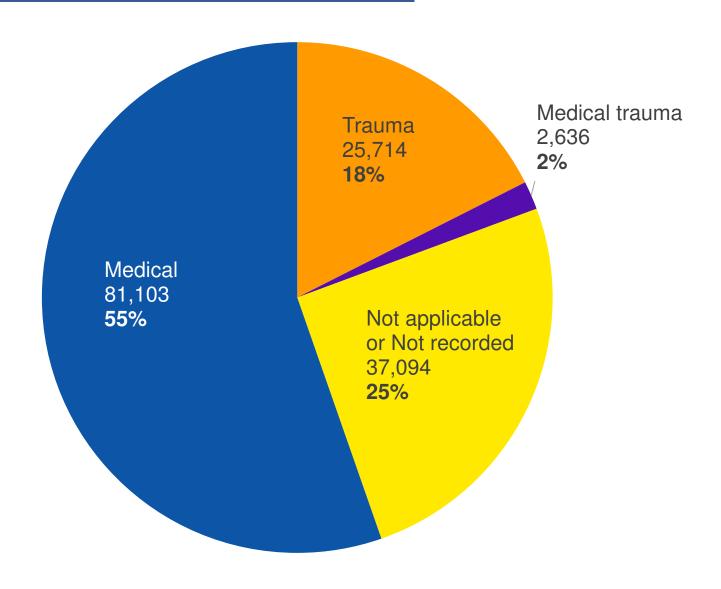
The top five causes of injury, which were the same as those in 2013, accounted for 82% of pediatric trauma hospitalizations with identified causes and intents. Almost all (95%) pediatric traumatic injuries were unintentional. Major causes of intentional injuries included firearms, suffocation, and cuts.



# PEDIATRIC EMS RUNS, 0-14 YEARS • TEXAS, 2014

## **CALL TYPE**

There were 146,640 EMS runs for children 0-14 years old in 2014. More than half the EMS runs were medical-related, while 18% were trauma-related.



	Intent					
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined	
Motor vehicle traffic	6,858	0	0	0	0	
Falls	6,100	*	0	0	728	
Natural/environmental	1,228	0	0	0	0	
Struck by/against	733	0	272	5	0	
Cut/pierce	277	58	45	0	73	
All other injuries**	2,526	448	713	88	649	

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.

Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined
Falls	2860	0	0	0	360
Motor vehicle traffic	2178	0	0	0	0
Natural/environmental	349	0	0	0	0
Struck by/against	254	0	50	*	0
Fire/burn	111	0	*	0	134
All other injuries**	826	144	139	27	227

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

The <1 year and 1-4 years age groups had the same top five causes of injury.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.

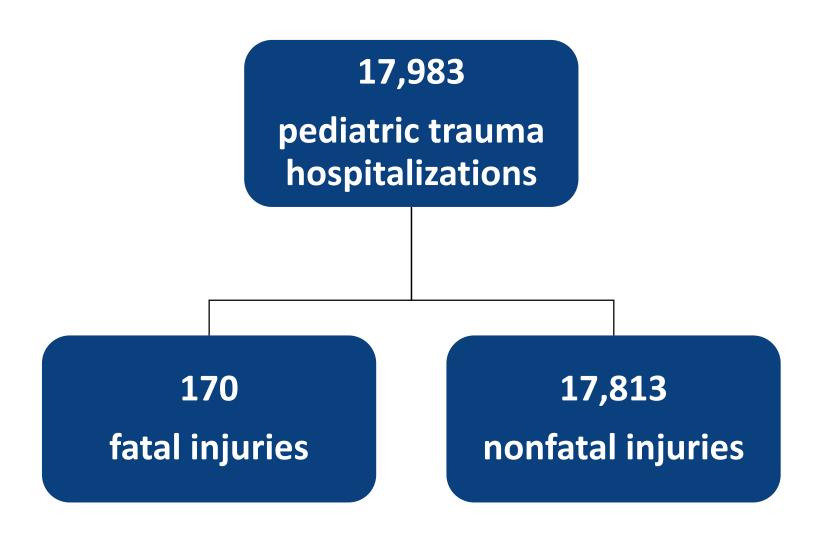
	Intent					
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined	
Motor vehicle traffic	4,680	0	0	0	0	
Falls	3,240	*	0	0	368	
Natural/environmental	879	0	0	0	0	
Struck by/against	479	0	222	*	0	
Cut/pierce	189	52	43	0	48	
All other injuries**	1,677	310	574	61	313	

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

The 5-9 years and 10-14 years age groups had the same top five causes of injury.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.

There were 17,983 trauma hospitalizations of children 0-14 years old in Texas during 2014. Less than 1% of these reported trauma hospitalizations involved fatal injuries.



	Injury severity score							
Injury diagnosis by outcome	1-9	10-15	16-24	25-75	Missing			
Fatal injuries								
Traumatic brain injury (TBI)	16	7	9	76	*			
Spinal cord injury (SCI)	*	0	0	*	0			
TBI + SCI	0	0	0	7	0			
Other traumatic injuries	40	*	6	13	13			
Nonfatal injuries								
TBI	2,219	417	646	236	200			
SCI	10	*	*	5	*			
TBI + SCI	*	*	*	10	*			
Other traumatic injuries	11,655	447	210	93	1,625			

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined
Falls	8,239	*	*	0	8
Motor vehicle traffic	2,391	0	0	0	0
Struck by/against	1,708	0	68	0	0
Fire/burn	1,056	*	*	0	12
Other transport	910	0	0	0	0
All other injuries**	2,496	46	474	*	649

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.

	Intent					
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined	
Falls	1,075	0	0	0	*	
Motor vehicle traffic	156	0	0	0	0	
Fire/burn	127	0	0	0	*	
Struck by/against	68	0	*	0	0	
Natural/environmental	20	0	0	0	0	
All other injuries**	165	*	248	*	43	

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.

	Intent					
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined	
Falls	2,570	0	*	0	*	
Fire/burn	613	*	0	0	9	
Motor vehicle traffic	612	0	0	0	0	
Struck by/against	371	0	6	0	0	
Natural/environmental	288	0	0	0	0	
All other injuries**	566	*	121	0	22	

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.

	Intent					
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined	
Falls	2,863	0	0	0	*	
Motor vehicle traffic	827	0	0	0	0	
Struck by/against	478	0	*	0	0	
Other transport	280	0	0	0	0	
Natural/environmental	223	0	0	0	0	
All other injuries**	779	7	44	0	9	

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.

# PEDIATRIC TRAUMA HOSPITALIZATIONS, 10-14 YEARS • TEXAS, 2014 TOP FIVE CAUSES BY INTENT

	Intent						
Cause of injury	Unintentional	Self-inflicted	Assault	Other	Undetermined		
Falls	1,731	*	*	0	*		
Motor vehicle traffic	796	0	0	0	0		
Struck by/against	791	0	54	0	0		
Other transport	530	0	0	0	0		
Pedal cyclist	206	0	0	0	0		
All other injuries**	665	36	64	0	14		

<sup>\*</sup>Counts have been suppressed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classified, and Not Specified were included in All other injuries, regardless of counts.